

MISSION MANDATES

UPDATE— FALL 2006

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**JOHN DEERE 4-H
YOUTH LEADERS
ACADEMY** 2

INSIDE STORY 2

COLLEGIATE 4-H 2

**NATIONAL 4-H
CONFERENCE
2007** 3

**HELPING
AMERICA'S
YOUTH (HAY)** 3

**WHITE HOUSE
CONFERENCE AT
4-H CENTER** 3

**CITIZENSHIP
WASHINGTON
FOCUS (CWF)** 4

MISSION MANDATES:

**Science, Engineering
& Technology—tied to
agricultural and
environmental issues**

**Healthy Living—tied
to human health and
well-being**

**Citizenship—tied to
the activities of
people with
institutions and
government for the
common good**

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY (SET) BLAZES A PATH IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

For more than 100 years, the National 4-H Headquarters, housed within USDA/CSREES, has developed practical life skills in youth through innovative experiential education programs delivered in the context of positive youth development that fulfill three mission mandates: Healthy Living, Citizenship and Science, Engineering and Technology (SET).

4-H is the only youth program with direct access to technological advances in agriculture and life sciences, family and consumer resource management, human development, nutrition and related areas, which result from land-grant university research. This access and application to quality, research-based science, engineering and technology curricula makes is unparalleled to any other youth organization in the country, making 4-H the largest provider of informal science experiences.

In 2005, the National 4-H Headquarters established a Science, Engineering and Technology Task Force to continually strengthen 4-H SET programming around the country. The Task Force has an initial goal of providing high-quality SET experiences to 1,000,000 new students by 2013.

Beth Birnsthil (NE) and Bob Horton (OH) serve as the Co-Chair for the SET Task Force. I

n the coming months a detailed action plan will be released. State Leaders have been asked to identify an SET Liaison as a primary point of contact for you state. If you have not done so, please email your information to: jkahler@csrees.usda.gov

To become involved or learn more about the work of the Task Force or the SET Mission Mandate, please email byron.garrett@usda.gov or call 202-720-5253.

NATIONAL 4-H SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE HOSTED BY NEBRASKA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION & 4-H

Nearly 200 young people from across the country gained science, engineering and technology skills needed to be prepared for the 21st century workplace during the National Science and Technology Conference hosted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The conference was a week-long event where attendees received 12 hours of hands-on education provided by UNL faculty from five different colleges. Topics included: computer programming, remote sensing, robotics, food science, engineering, movie making, sports science and emergency

preparedness.

In addition to workshop focus areas, participants took part in an SET Skill-a-thon, career fair, and computer refurbishing project.

Special thanks to Trudy Dunham, Kathleen Lodl, and the entire planning committee.

JOHN DEERE 4-H YOUTH LEADERS ACADEMY

The 2nd John Deere 4-H Youth Leaders Academy was a tremendous success this past September. Thirty five teams consisting of youth-adult partners attended the Academy representing a wide our land-grant partners.

The Leaders Academy was developed to foster a greater understanding of youth in governance and help youth-adults partners gain valuable skills to implement projects

in their local communities.

The theme this year was "Chart Your Course" with a focus on Healthy Living. Attendees had the opportunities to hear nationally recognized speakers and experts in the field to discuss two very distinct tracks, mind and body.

Over the 4-days, Academy participants utilized the information gained from the work-

shops to develop an action plan to be implemented following the Academy.

Special thanks to Cheryl Salley and John Deere for sponsoring the event again this year.

Also, kudos to Cheri Booth, State Program Leader from Michigan for serving as Chair this year and the entire design team composed of youth and adults.



Jordan Craig of the Leaders Academy Design Team with 2006 Academy participants.

4-H GIS-GPS TEAM PRESENTS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SAN DIEGO

In August, a delegation of forty three 4-H youth and adult partners attended the Environmental Systems Research Institutes (ESRI) International Users Conference in San Diego, California.

The 4-H GIS GPS Design Team presented the CSREES Land Grant University supported program to the 13,500 in attendance. Later that week, the National 4-H

GIS GPS program was awarded the 2006 GIS Education Award in recognition of the leadership that 4-H is providing.

Next month, a new public-private partnership software grant program will be announced by ESRI that will enable the number of counties and states making use of GIS and GPS for Community Mapping, to make another

growth surge, enabling thousands of additional rural youth to prepare for the careers of tomorrow.

Currently, the partnership with ESRI reaches over 15,000 youth in approximately 300 counties across the country.

For more information regarding GIS GPS, email jkahler@csrees.usda.gov



4-H GIS GPS students presenting before 13,500 participants at the 2006 ESRI GIS Conference in San Diego, California



4-H GIS GPS Team consisting of youth and adults from 10 states and National 4-H Headquarters staff.

COLLEGIATE 4-H

The National Collegiate 4-H organization has had a busy year. This spring a Strategic Planning Retreat was held to develop a road map to ensure the future health and vitality of the organization.

The National Action Board (NAB) and Strategic Planning committee identified five goals: Organizational Affairs,

Diversity, Communication and Member Education, Partnerships and Community Service.

Collegiate 4-H has taken significant strides in moving the organization forward and communicating to the 4-H system. Check out the website for specifics at www.collegiate4H.org

Plans are underway for the National Collegiate 4-H Conference taking place February 15-18, 2007 in Baton Rouge, LA. Details can be found at <http://batonrouge2007.org>.

If you have question or concerns about Collegiate 4-H, please contact Byron Garrett at National 4-H Headquarters.



NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE...SPRING 2007

The National 4-H Conference is the Secretary of Agriculture's premiere youth development opportunity, engaging young people to assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H youth development programs nationally and locally.

National 4-H Headquarters is charged with capturing and sharing recommendations that emerge from the

conference with the Secretary of Agriculture, Extension Leaders, and others who determine 4-H programs.

Highlights of the conference include: discover new skills and learn how to apply them back home, establish lifelong friendships, share your personal 4-H experience with members of Congress on Capitol Hill, participate in professional development

opportunities and of course have fun.

The 2007 National 4-H Conference will take place March 24-29 at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD.

For information, visit the conference website at <http://4hconf.4-h.org/>.

You can also contact National 4-H Headquarters, USDA Natl4-HConference.usda.gov or call 202-401-5165.



KaLonna Maull, Delaware State University student, discusses the Farm Bill on a live radio broadcast with Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns.

HELPING AMERICA'S YOUTH(HAY) INITIATIVE

Helping America's Youth is a nationwide effort to raise awareness about the challenges facing our youth, particularly at risk boys, and to motivate caring adults to connect with youth in three key areas: family, school and community.

As the leader of the Initiative, Mrs. Laura Bush is highlighting programs which are effectively helping

America's young people.

A key component of the Initiative is the Community Guide. The guide was developed to help community identify needs and map resources available in their local areas. Cooperative Extension offices around the country are included in the database of effective programs.

4-H has played a significant

role in helping bring the Initiative to scale. The first 2 regional conferences were hosted by Indiana and Colorado 4-H. Special thanks to Renee McKee, Jeff Goodwin, and their respective staff, youth, and volunteers for a job well done

In addition, 10 state 4-H programs participated in these training and technical assistance opportunities..



2006 National 4-H Conference Youth Coordinator Chris Nowicki (Ga) with First Lady Laura Bush

"Caring adults connecting with youth is vital in the lives of our nation's young people, particularly boys, in helping them become healthy and successful adults.

-Mrs. Laura Bush

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON SCHOOL SAFETY

On October 10, the White House convened a White House Conference on School Safety at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD.

The conference was convened by Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings and Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

President Bush presided over the final panel. This was the first since President Eisenhower dedicated the National 4-H Center that a sitting President has visited the campus.

Representatives from 4-H, CSREES, USDA and our partners in the youth development field were

invited. USDA Undersecretary Gale Buchanan, Deputy Under Secretary Merle Pierson, and CSREES Administrator Colien Hefferan were in attendance with several 4-H delegations from surrounding states.

Special thanks to WV 4-H for serving as greeters and hosts for the event.



Secretary of Education Spellings and Attorney General Gonzales visit with representatives from 4-H.

<http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/>

National 4-H Headquarters
1400 Independence Avenue S.W.
Mailstop 2225
Washington, DC 20250-2225
Phone: 202-720-2908
Fax: 202-720-9366
E-mail: 4hhq@csrees.usda.gov

NATIONAL 4-H
HEADQUARTERS



The mission of National 4-H Headquarters is to advance knowledge for agriculture, the environment, human health and well-being, and communities by creating opportunities for youth.

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CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS (CWF)

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is a civic education and leadership program held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland every summer for high school youth.

Take your experience to another level through CWF. This is a six-day intensive summer citizenship program for youth ages 14-19. CWF delegates learn about the democratic process and their role as citizens while they experience our nation's capital.

Get the inside scoop about how government really works with prominent guest speakers. College-age program fellows lead bill

writing workshops, a national issues forum, mock elections, and congressional sessions that prepare youth for now and in the future.

4-H delegates from across the country learn and practice skills intended to make them better citizens and successful individuals. Nearly 2,000 youth attended CWF in 2006 and exhibited the following measurable outcomes:

Strengthened communication, leadership and life skills; Increased understanding of civic and social responsibilities as they relate to the development of better citizens and leaders; and Improved respect, networking and camaraderie

with other youth from diverse backgrounds.

Since its inception in 1966, the CWF program has been a successful civic leadership opportunity for 4-H youth to experience our nation's capital and governmental processes first hand.

CWF provides a unique opportunity for 4-H members to expand their horizon while gaining a concrete understanding for how government works with a specific focus on Washington, DC.

For more information visit:

www.4hcwf.org



Citizenship Washington Focus participants during a visit to